

FAQ

Q: What is BRT?

A: Bus rapid transit (BRT) is a suite of design and technology features that speed up buses and make service more reliable and comfortable. BRT systems typically:

- Give the bus its own traffic lane so it can run faster with fewer impediments;
- Give the bus priority at traffic signals so it spends less time stopped at red lights;
- Provide real-time information to riders so they know when the next bus is coming;
- Build high-quality and well-lit bus stop and stations to improve comfort and security; and
- Provide streetscape improvements and amenities to make the street more comfortable for pedestrians and bicyclists accessing transit stations.

Find out more about BRT at the National BRT Institute or through the Institute for Transportation & Development Policy's BRT Standard (<https://www.itdp.org/>).

Q: Would BRT affect the walking and biking on Madison? What about the streetscape environment?

A: Yes; the Study includes evaluating and planning pedestrian and streetscape amenities, including shorter crossing distances, more crossing opportunities, landscaping and street furniture, and other amenities. We will also evaluate improving bicycle connections to Madison and explore improving bicycle facilities on a parallel route.

Q: What is the project's study area?

A: The Study will focus on the area from Colman Dock to 23rd Avenue East.

Q: Can we really fit everything in? Would we lose on-street parking or traffic lanes?

A: We are just getting started exploring design options so that we can understand the corridor block by block. With a mature corridor like Madison, there are going to be tradeoffs. We want to hear your thoughts about those tradeoffs as the project is developed. At each round of outreach, we'll share the analysis and engage the community and project partners in a discussion about how to move forward.

Q: How would this project be funded and when will it be implemented?

A: The Study will include development of a funding and implementation plan, which will include identification of project elements that could be implemented in the next few years. Completing this Study will allow SDOT to pursue federal, state, regional, and local dollars to implement the project.

Q: Would the implementation of the Madison BRT project impact Route 2?

A: In itself, none of the improvements that may be proposed as part of the Madison BRT project would require any changes to Metro Route 2 along Seneca St. The Madison BRT project will develop a series of transit and streetscape improvements along Madison that could support a variety of service options.

Q: Have decisions already been made? How can I be involved?

A: No decisions have been made. It's very early in the Study, and public involvement is critical to the success of the project. We will host community meetings throughout the Study and encourage you to participate. Please visit the project website at:

<http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/madisonBRT.htm>

To sign up for the mailing list, please send an email to madisonbrt@seattle.gov.